

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

DISCOVERORG DATA, LLC, a Delaware
limited liability company,

Plaintiff,

v.

FACTSPAN, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:19-cv-1893

**COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Plaintiff DiscoverOrg Data, LLC (“DiscoverOrg”), for its complaint against Factspan, Inc. (“Factspan”), alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

DiscoverOrg curates a highly accurate cloud-based platform that provides data used by businesses worldwide in connection with their business-to-business sales, marketing, and recruiting. DiscoverOrg invests millions of dollars annually to build and maintain its database and associated intellectual property and to constantly verify, update, and expand upon the information it provides to customers. To use this database, DiscoverOrg’s customers pay tens and sometimes hundreds of thousands of dollars in subscription fees. The success of DiscoverOrg’s business model depends on a customer’s faith on the continued availability—and exclusivity—of DiscoverOrg’s database.

1 Instead of paying for a subscription like other customers, Factspan stole more than 3,000
2 records from DiscoverOrg's database, which it used for months to market its products and
3 services. DiscoverOrg brings this suit to protect its highly valuable intellectual property, recover
4 its damages, and ensure fairness for itself and for its customers.

5 **PARTIES**

6 1. DiscoverOrg is a Delaware limited liability company. Its principal place of
7 business is located in Vancouver, Washington.

8 2. Factspan is a Delaware corporation. On information and belief, its principal place
9 of business is located in Seattle, Washington.

10 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

11 3. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the federal claims under 28 U.S.C.
12 §§ 1331 and 1338(a) and (b). This Court also has supplemental jurisdiction over the state law
13 claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

14 4. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Factspan, because it transacts business
15 in this district, and represents to the public that its principal place of business is located in this
16 district. Venue is proper in this district, because Factspan resides in this district. 28 U.S.C.
17 § 1391(b)(1) and 28 U.S.C. § 1400(a).

18 **FACTS AND ALLEGATIONS**

19 **A. DiscoverOrg's Platform.**

20 5. DiscoverOrg provides business-to-business marketing data, including business
21 contact data, firmographic information, and other competitive intelligence. It delivers this data
22 to paying subscribers via a password-secured, online graphical user interface. DiscoverOrg's
23 subscribers gain access to its database of marketing information profiling businesses in the
24 United States and across the globe. DiscoverOrg has been recognized as an industry leader in
25 sales and marketing intelligence. The depth, breadth, and accuracy of DiscoverOrg's database is
26 unrivaled in the marketplace.

1 6. DiscoverOrg has invested and continues to invest tens of millions of dollars to
2 develop and maintain the infrastructure, content, and quality of its database. To deliver timely
3 and comprehensive data to DiscoverOrg's clients, DiscoverOrg employs approximately 200
4 research analysts focused on building, managing, and updating DiscoverOrg's database.
5 DiscoverOrg expends substantial labor, time, and resources to collect, organize, and disseminate
6 the information in its database. In total, DiscoverOrg employs more than 1,000 people and has
7 made significant investment in developing and purchasing software, hardware, and other
8 equipment to continuously update and support the accuracy and comprehensiveness of its
9 database. DiscoverOrg's database displays the selection, arrangement, orchestration,
10 compilation, and presentation of the organizational charts, contacts, and other information
11 collected and assembled by DiscoverOrg's analysts.

12 7. DiscoverOrg licenses access to its database to thousands of companies.
13 DiscoverOrg's database is valuable to companies like Factspace because they use the detailed
14 information collected by DiscoverOrg to market their own products and services.

15 8. The database's value depends on its exclusivity. To protect the database's value,
16 DiscoverOrg has implemented reasonable security measures. For example, access to
17 DiscoverOrg's database requires a password, and only users that have signed restrictive license
18 agreements receive this password. DiscoverOrg also uses mail monitoring and list protection to
19 secure the integrity of its database.

20 **B. Factspace's Wrongful Conduct.**

21 9. Instead of acquiring a license from DiscoverOrg to access the proprietary and
22 confidential subscriber-only portions of the platform, Factspace gained unauthorized access to
23 DiscoverOrg's proprietary information. Factspace then used this information to sell its products
24 and services. This conduct presents a critical threat to DiscoverOrg: if everyone did what
25 Factspace did, DiscoverOrg could not survive as a business, and the resource DiscoverOrg
26 provides to its customers would be completely lost. Through its actions, Factspace sought to enjoy
27 a "free ride" off of the license fees paid by DiscoverOrg's legitimate customers.

1 10. Beginning in June 2018, Factspan used DiscoverOrg's proprietary information to
2 sell Factspan's products and services. Factspan accessed at least 3,900 records from
3 DiscoverOrg's database and commercially exploited that information for its sales and marketing
4 purposes, including by conducting email marketing campaigns using the stolen data.

5 11. Factspan acted knowingly, intentionally, and willfully in accessing and using
6 DiscoverOrg's proprietary information without authorization and without compensating
7 DiscoverOrg. Factspan wrongfully profited from its unauthorized use of DiscoverOrg's
8 proprietary information, including, but not limited to, reducing the time, effort, and expense
9 associated with identifying and contacting potential new customers and business opportunities.

10 12. Factspan knew that DiscoverOrg's data was confidential and proprietary and
11 subject to restrictive license agreements. Even so, Factspan knowingly accessed and used
12 DiscoverOrg's data for its own sales and marketing purposes without any license or authorization
13 to do so. Factspan took these actions to profit from DiscoverOrg's data without paying
14 DiscoverOrg. Factspan has wrongfully profited from these activities and has reduced the market
15 value of DiscoverOrg's database.

16 13. At all relevant times, Factspan had a duty to train and supervise the conduct of its
17 employees and agents acting on its behalf. Factspan breached this duty in two ways:

- 18 (1) by failing to train and monitor its employees and agents adequately; and
19 (2) by failing to have appropriate policies in place regarding unauthorized
20 access to computer systems, communication, storage networks, and
21 copyrighted works and trade secrets, and/or failing to enforce such
22 policies.

23 14. On information and belief, all of Factspan's alleged actions here were performed
24 by employees or other agents of Factspan within the scope of their employment or other agency
25 relationship with Factspan, on Factspan's behalf, and for Factspan's benefit.
26
27

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Theft of Trade Secrets - 18 U.S.C. § 1832 et seq.)

15. DiscoverOrg incorporates herein by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 14.

16. DiscoverOrg gathers, organizes, generates, collects, and assembles in-depth, commercially valuable information (including reporting structures, contact information, and other data), expending substantial time, labor, and expense to do so. DiscoverOrg's database and the information contained therein comprise a compilation of business information. This information is used in interstate commerce.

17. The compilation of information in DiscoverOrg's database derives independent economic value from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable through proper means by, those who are not licensed by DiscoverOrg to access the database. Specifically, DiscoverOrg works as a subscriber-based platform; to gain access to DiscoverOrg's collection of information, subscribers must pay a fee. Therefore, DiscoverOrg's very business model depends on the secrecy and independent value of its information. If subscribers could get DiscoverOrg's information elsewhere for free or by paying less, they would. Non-licensees, such as Factspan, obtain economic value from the disclosure or use of the information in DiscoverOrg's database.

18. DiscoverOrg has taken reasonable measures to protect and keep the information in its database secret. These measures include limiting access to those customers who agree to the terms of access in the licensing agreement and requiring password authentication to access the database through its secure online portal. DiscoverOrg also monitors access to the database and use of the information to further ensure its security.

19. Factspan used improper means, including theft, to obtain access to and acquire information from DiscoverOrg's database. Factspan knew or had reason to know, at the time it obtained and at the times it used DiscoverOrg's information, that this information was obtained from persons or entities owing DiscoverOrg a duty to maintain its secrecy.

1 20. Factspan received and possessed information from DiscoverOrg's proprietary
2 database that Factspan knew to have been converted without authorization.

3 21. Factspan willfully and maliciously misappropriated DiscoverOrg's trade secrets
4 by using the information contained in DiscoverOrg's proprietary computer systems for
5 Factspan's financial gain without authorization.

6 22. Factspan's actions have damaged DiscoverOrg through the lost opportunity to
7 realize licensing revenue and the diminution of the market value of its proprietary information.
8 Factspan has been unjustly enriched by the use of valuable marketing and sales information
9 without paying compensation and through the consummation of business transactions that would
10 not have occurred without use of the stolen information. DiscoverOrg would, in the alternative,
11 be entitled to a reasonable royalty for Factspan's use of the information.

12 23. Factspan is liable to DiscoverOrg for damages for DiscoverOrg's actual losses
13 and Factspan's unjust enrichment, in an amount to be proven at trial, or for a reasonable royalty
14 pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(3)(B). DiscoverOrg is entitled to an injunction preventing
15 Factspan from continuing to possess or use information obtained from DiscoverOrg's database,
16 or requiring Factspan to pay a reasonable royalty for future use. Finally, DiscoverOrg is entitled
17 to exemplary damages under 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(3)(C), and to its reasonable attorneys' fees
18 under 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(3)(D).

19 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

20 **(Misappropriation of Trade Secrets – RCW 19.108.010 *et seq.*)**

21 24. DiscoverOrg incorporates herein by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1
22 through 23.

23 25. Factspan is liable to DiscoverOrg for damages for DiscoverOrg's actual losses
24 and Factspan's unjust enrichment, in an amount to be proven at trial. DiscoverOrg is entitled to
25 an injunction preventing Factspan from continuing to possess or use information obtained from
26 DiscoverOrg's database, or requiring Factspan to pay a reasonable royalty for future use. Finally,
27 DiscoverOrg is entitled to exemplary damages under RCW 19.108.030(2), and to its reasonable

1 attorney fees under RCW 19.108.040.

2 **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

3 **(Misappropriation)**

4 26. DiscoverOrg incorporates herein by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1
5 through 25.

6 27. DiscoverOrg gathers, organizes, generates, collects, and assembles in-depth,
7 commercially valuable information (including reporting structures, contact information, and
8 other data) expending substantial time, labor, and expense to do so.

9 28. Factspan intentionally, and without permission, used information from
10 DiscoverOrg's database to increase its profits. Factspan has taken a "free ride" on DiscoverOrg's
11 skill, labor, and costly and substantial efforts in creating and securing its commercially valuable
12 database.

13 29. DiscoverOrg has lost profits and suffered the diminution of the market value of
14 its database because of Factspan's actions. As a result, Factspan is liable to DiscoverOrg for
15 compensatory damages, including wrongfully derived revenues in an amount to be proven at
16 trial.

17 **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

18 **(Copyright)**

19 **Count 1 — Copyright Infringement 17 U.S.C. § 501 *et seq.***

20 30. DiscoverOrg incorporates herein by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1
21 through 29.

22 31. DiscoverOrg's database is an original work of authorship containing
23 copyrightable subject matter for which copyright protection exists under the Copyright Act.
24 DiscoverOrg has filed for copyright registration with the United States Copyright Office in
25 compliance with 17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* DiscoverOrg's copyright was registered December 27,
26 2010, with registration number TX0007487999.

27 32. As owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the copyrighted works,

1 DiscoverOrg is entitled to all the exclusive rights and remedies accorded by Section 106 of the
2 Copyright Act to a copyright owner. Those rights include the exclusive rights to reproduce the
3 copyrighted works and to sell non-exclusive licenses to those copyrighted works.

4 33. Factspan made and used copies of DiscoverOrg's copyrighted material without
5 authorization or license from DiscoverOrg. Factspan used those copies for Factspan's financial
6 gain without paying DiscoverOrg. In doing so, Factspan violated DiscoverOrg's exclusive rights
7 of reproduction and distribution.

8 34. At all relevant times, Factspan had the duty and the ability to supervise and
9 monitor the actions of its employees and agents. Factspan's employees performed their actions
10 within the scope of their employment and on Factspan's behalf and for its direct financial benefit.

11 35. Factspan knowingly induced, caused, facilitated, encouraged, and/or materially
12 contributed to the infringing conduct.

13 36. Factspan's willful infringing conduct has disregarded DiscoverOrg's rights.

14 37. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing acts, DiscoverOrg has been and
15 will continue to be harmed. Under 17 U.S.C. § 504(b), DiscoverOrg is entitled to its actual
16 damages, including any and all of Factspan's profits attributable to its wrongful conduct, or
17 statutory damages under 17 U.S.C. § 504(c). DiscoverOrg is also entitled to its costs, including
18 reasonable attorney fees, under 17 U.S.C. § 505.

19 **Count 2 — Circumvention of Copyright Protection Systems**

20 **(17 U.S.C. §§ 1201, 1203)**

21 38. DiscoverOrg incorporates herein by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1
22 through 37.

23 39. DiscoverOrg employs technical measures, including password-protection, mail
24 monitoring, and list protection to protect its copyrighted works. These works include its
25 database, business intelligence reports, and supporting infrastructure, which effectively control
26 access to these works.

27 40. Factspan, through its unauthorized use of a DiscoverOrg customer's password,

1 circumvented these measures to access and use DiscoverOrg's copyrighted works.

2 41. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing acts, DiscoverOrg has been and
3 will continue to be harmed. DiscoverOrg is entitled to its actual damages, in addition to any of
4 Factspan's profits attributable to its conduct, under 17 U.S.C. § 1201(c)(1)-(2). In the alternative,
5 DiscoverOrg is entitled to statutory damages under 17 U.S.C. § 1201(c)(3). DiscoverOrg is also
6 entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs under 17 U.S.C. § 1203(b)(4)-(5).

7 **FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

8 **(Unjust Enrichment)**

9 42. DiscoverOrg incorporates herein by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1
10 through 41.

11 43. Factspan used DiscoverOrg's commercially valuable data without paying
12 DiscoverOrg. This action benefitted and unjustly enriched Factspan to DiscoverOrg's detriment.

13 44. Factspan is therefore liable to DiscoverOrg for this unjust enrichment in an
14 amount to be determined at trial.

15 **SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

16 **(Negligence)**

17 45. DiscoverOrg incorporates herein by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1
18 through 44.

19 46. At all relevant times, Factspan had a duty to take reasonable care in training and
20 supervising its employees and other agents acting on its behalf.

21 47. Factspan breached this duty in two ways: (1) by failing to train and supervise its
22 employees regarding basic data security obligations; and (2) by allowing its employees to
23 participate in the unlawful conduct alleged above. A reasonable entity would have implemented
24 and enforced a policy banning this kind of conduct. Factspan failed to do so.

25 48. It is foreseeable that the failure to train and supervise employees and other agents
26 about appropriate methods for obtaining sales and marketing information for the benefit of
27 Factspan would harm DiscoverOrg.

49. As a direct and proximate cause of Factspan's negligence, DiscoverOrg lost profits. Factspan's negligence also reduced the market value of DiscoverOrg's database. Factspan is therefore liable to DiscoverOrg for compensatory damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, DiscoverOrg prays for the following relief:

1. Entry of judgment in its favor and against Factspan on all counts;
2. A declaration that Factspan's unlawful conduct was willful and knowing;
3. As to its First Claim for Relief, DiscoverOrg's actual damages, restitution for Factspan's unjust enrichment, or a reasonable royalty, in an amount to be proven at trial;
4. As to its Second Claim for Relief, DiscoverOrg's actual damages, restitution for Factspan's unjust enrichment, or a reasonable royalty, in an amount to be proven at trial;
5. As to its Third Claim for Relief, compensatory damages in an amount to be proven at trial;
6. As to its Fourth Claim for Relief, actual damages in an amount to be proven at trial, or statutory damages as provided for by 17 U.S.C. § 504(c) and 17 U.S.C. § 1201(c)(3);
7. As to its Fifth Claim for Relief, restitution for Factspan's unjust enrichment;
8. As to its Sixth Claim for Relief, compensatory damages in an amount to be proven at trial;
9. An award of exemplary damages for Factspan's willful and knowing infringement, theft, and misappropriation;
10. Immediate and permanent injunctive relief enjoining Factspan from using DiscoverOrg's trade secrets, copyrighted materials, and misappropriated products and services, or requiring Factspan to pay a reasonable royalty for future use;
11. An award of DiscoverOrg's costs of suit, including the costs of experts and reasonable attorneys' fees as permitted by law, including 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(3)(D), RCW 19.108.040, 17 U.S.C. § 505, and 17 U.S.C. §§ 1203(b)(4)-(5); and

LANE POWELL PC

COMPLAINT - 11
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